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SEP 11 2003

GROUP 3600

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Original) A trailer for delivering asphalt material to a paving machine comprising:
 - a trailer bed for holding asphalt material;
 - a trailer frame having at least one axle; and
 - at least one hinge arm having a length separating two end portions wherein the first end portion is fixed to said trailer bed and the second end portion is mounted to said axle, and wherein said hinge arm is disposed at a non-vertical angle between said trailer bed and said trailer frame.
2. (Original) The trailer of claim 1 wherein the length of said hinge arm is greater than the vertical distance between said trailer bed and said axle.
3. (Original) The trailer of claim 2 wherein said trailer includes at least two parallel hinge arms.
4. (Original) The trailer of claim 2 wherein said trailer includes at least two axles.
5. (Original) The trailer of claim 1 wherein said axle is mounted below said frame.

6. (Original) The trailer of claim 1 wherein said second end portion is pivotably mounted to said axle.

7. (Original) The trailer of claim 1 wherein said trailer is a full length dump trailer.

8. (Original) The trailer of claim 1 wherein said trailer is a semi-length dump trailer.

9. (Original) The trailer of claim 1 wherein said trailer is a full frame trailer.

10. (Original) The trailer of claim 1 wherein said trailer is a half frame trailer.

11. (Original) The trailer of claim 1 wherein said trailer further comprises a mud flap bracket substantially parallel to said hinge arm attached to said trailer bed between said hinge arm and the end of said trailer bed.

Claims 12-16 (Cancelled).

17. (Original) A trailer for delivering asphalt material to a paving machine comprising:

a trailer frame having a back portion;

a trailer bed mounted to said trailer frame for holding asphalt material wherein said trailer bed is movable between a lowered position and a raised position; and,

at least one hinge arm extending between said trailer bed and said trailer frame wherein said hinge arm operates to move said trailer bed upward and backward relative to said trailer frame when said trailer is moved between said lowered position and said raised position.

18. (Original) The trailer of claim 17 wherein said hinge arm is disposed at a non-vertical angle between said trailer frame and said trailer bed.

Claims 19-23 (Cancelled).

24. (New) The trailer of claim 17, further comprising:

at least one axle mounted to said trailer frame;

wherein said at least one hinge arm is pivotably mounted to said at least one axle.

25. (New) The trailer of claim 24, wherein the length of said at least one hinge arm is greater than the vertical distance between said trailer bed and said trailer frame.

26. (New) The trailer of claim 17, wherein the length of said at least one hinge arm is greater than the vertical distance between said trailer bed and said trailer frame.

27. (New) The trailer of claim 17, wherein said at least one hinge arm further comprises:

a bed end and a frame end;

wherein said bed end is fixed to said trailer bed;

wherein said frame end is pivotably mounted to said trailer frame between the back portion of said trailer frame and said bed end.

28. (New) The trailer of claim 27, further comprising:

at least one axle mounted to said trailer frame;

wherein the frame end of said at least one hinge arm is pivotably mounted to the at least one axle.

29. (New) the trailer of claim 28, wherein the length of said at least one hinge arm is greater than the vertical distance between said trailer bed and said trailer frame.

30. (New) The trailer of claim 17, further comprising:
at least one mud flap unit having a bed end fixed to said trailer bed and a flap end having a mud flap;
wherein said at least one mud flap unit is substantially parallel to said at least one hinge arm.

31. (New) A method for delivering asphalt material from a trailer to a paving machine hopper comprising:
providing a paving machine having an asphalt material hopper with a front panel;
providing a trailer having a bed portion containing asphalt material and a frame portion; and,
delivering asphalt material to said hopper by moving said bed portion upward and towards said hopper.

32. (New) The method of claim 31 wherein said trailer includes a hinge member attached to said bed portion and said frame portion.

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33. (New) The method of claim 32 wherein said hinge member is disposed at a non-vertical angle between said bed portion and said frame portion.

34. (New) The method of claim 31 wherein said bed portion includes a spill guard.

35. (New) The method of claim 34 wherein said delivery step further comprises moving said spill guard over said front panel.